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upon that adopted by Professor Flower, but is modified to make it include the host of extinct forms here dealt with. In his preface the author avows himself one of that school of naturalists who use generic terms in a wider sense. The Pikermi and Mont Leberon beds are classed as Pliocene, the Eppelsheim beds as uppermost Miocene; the Ronzon and Hempstead (Isle of Wight) beds as lowest Miocene (the latter with a query); the Quercy phosphorites form the top of the Eocene, while the Egerkingen beds of Switzerland are placed at the bottom of the Upper Eocene. Among the peculiarities of classification is the inclusion of the dogs as a subfamily (Caninæ) of the Ursidæ. The Proboscidea include three species of *Dinotherium*, twenty-six of *Mastodon*, and eighteen of *Elephas*.

Report of the U. S. Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, 1883.—This report contains twelve hundred pages of valuable matter and numerous illustrations, among which may be especially mentioned the eleven plates of Cetaceans, which illustrate Mr. True's suggestions to lighthouse-keepers and others relative to collecting examples of these animals. The report proper occupies only ninety-five pages, including a statement of the results of the inquiry into the history and statistics of food-fishes and an account of the progress of pisciculture. In the appendices we find papers by Stone, Tanner, Smiley, Duff, Day, Ljungman, Lundberg, Verrill, Bush, Eisen, Shufeldt, Seal, Mather, Benecke, etc. The most voluminous appendix is that relating to natural history and biological research. Nearly two hundred pages of this are occupied by Professor Verrill's account of the results of the explorations made by the "Albatross" in 1883. Lieutenant Tanner devotes a still larger space in Appendix A to the construction and outfit of the "Albatross," and a report upon the work done during the cruise of 1883. The "Albatross" reports are profusely illustrated.

Gustav Eisen's "Oligochætological Researches" and Dr. Shufeldt's "Osteology of *Amia calva*" are valuable special papers.

Biographical Memoirs of the National Academy of Science, Vol. II.—This volume contains fifteen biographies of deceased members of the National Academy, including the well-known names of Louis Agassiz, Jeffries Wyman, J. P. Kirtland, J. L. Le Conte, A. Guyot, and J. W. Draper.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

Maiden, J. H.—Report of the Australian Museum. N. S. W., 1885.

Nehring.—Ueber die Abstammung unserer Haustiere, mit besonderer Berücksichtigung von Hund, Schwein und Pferd. March, 1885.—Ueber einen in die Gefangenschaft gezüchteten täckel-beinigen Hasen. SB. Ges. Nat. Freunde. Berlin, 1886. Both from the author.